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CONTENTS OF THIS ISSUE.

	PAGE
Notes of the Week,	289
A Warning to Republicans,	292
Is Our Currency Redundant?	293
Prices of Agricultural Products,	293
Woman's Ways,	294
A Chapter About Children,	295
Tea Table Talk,	295
Newspaper Notes,	296
OPEN DOORS TO CORRESPONDENTS:	
"The Silver Craze is Over,"	296
Some Queries Answered,	296
Sociological Subjects,	297
Art and Science,	297
Our Paris Letter,	298
Foreign Facts and Fancies,	301
Fireside Fancies,	302
Facts for Financiers,	302
Nuggets and Nubbins,	303

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE elections show a distinct abatement of the flood-tide of political success, which brought back the Republican party a year ago. There is still enough of it to promise them the presidency in 1896, and yet not so much as to secure them against the consequence of any folly they may commit in the next Congress.

As we expected, they have lost New York City while carrying the state. In great cities with a large foreign element in their population, a party of moral ideas is liable to such losses. It is, however, most unfortunate to see the worst political organization in America in control of its chief seaport.

The victory in New Jersey is more directly traceable to the attitude of parties on the tariff. In fact, Democracy in New Jersey is out of date. New Jersey can no more afford to make terms with free trade than could Pennsylvania or Connecticut.

The overturn in Maryland, and especially in Baltimore, is the most notable event of the political year. The determination of the people of the State to cast off the yoke of Senator Gorman had much to do with this. Here also, however, the industrial change has played its part. In 1787 Baltimore, along with our own city, was a focus of intense protectionist sentiment. The continuance of slavery, however, prevented the growth of manufactures, and both city and state swung into the free trade column. Since the war, things have begun to flow in their natural channel, and the panic of 1893 awoke Maryland to a sense of what she owes to the Protectionist policy, and her working people to the folly of voting for a party which had taken the bread out of their mouths.

Republican victories in other states were expected, but they generally show a falling off in the size of the majorities, and in the west a growth in the popular vote. Of those considered doubtful, Kentucky has elected Mr. Bradley, the Republican candidate for governor, over Mr. Hardin, but the Republicans in Kentucky had the covert support of a Democratic Administration. The returns from Utah assure the selection of two Free Silver Republican Senators to represent the State at Washington.

ON the whole the Republicans are shown to be distinctly in the lead, with power to make aggression upon the lines of their enemies. The success, however, has been due much more to the weakness of the enemy than to their own skill, strength or courage.

The Republican conduct of the campaign has not been heroic. Most of them seemed determined to keep away, as far as possible, from the most vital issues, and not a few showed weakening even on the tariff question. The disposition of this class was to declare that the party is not tied to the McKinley tariff or to high or extreme Protection of any sort. Exactly what they meant by this distinction they did not condescend to tell the country. In what respect was the tariff of 1892 defective? As compared with the preceding tariffs, it lowered more duties than it raised, and it enacted the largest Free List that any American tariff ever contained. For the first time in our history the greater part of our imports came in free of duty, without inflicting any injury to the interests of American labor. Its effects on prices were not what its enemies predicted and would still have us believe. The only article whose price rose after the enactment of that Tariff was grindstones. Cotton prints in indigo sold for the first time at four cents a yard, wholesale, to the satisfaction of the mills, and a woman could buy a good dress pattern for seventy-five cents. Such was the "oppression of the consumer" of which the Free Traders tell us. In that tariff, also, was embraced the beginnings of a policy which would have enlarged our commerce with the continent to manyfold its present volume. Our imports from Spanish America, under the Reciprocity Treaties it secured, increased by \$37,839,512, and our exports by \$11,640,075. The former continues, and has even increased slightly since the new

tariff went into operation; but our exports have fallen \$7,239,249. During half the present year the falling off has been \$9,115,201, and the loss for the whole year will be twice as much.

In what way will the ideal Tariff of these Republicans differ from that of 1892? What duties will they put lower than it did? What articles will they put on the Free List which it left under duty? Is it wool? or iron ore? or refined sugar? or tin plate? A detailed statement of what is this Protection, which is to be neither "high" nor "extreme," would be instructive to the public.

As to silver, the Republicans generally in the Eastern half of the country were embarrassed by their previous unfaithfulness to their own principles. The part they took in the repeal of the purchase clause of the Sherman law was in defiance of their national declaration for the equal use of both metals in coinage. It was the final declaration that we regarded silver as a substance unfit for use as money, and the speakers and newspapers which united in insisting upon it, have not been able to get back to the Minneapolis platform of 1892 ever since. They gave themselves over to the gold standard party by that act, and thereby inflicted such an injury on the party's principles that it is hard to get it back to a sound position. There is, in fact, a peril that the next National Convention may retreat from the ground taken in 1892, and thus complete the division of the East from the West. That is the precipice which lies right in the path of the party.

It was also a bad tactical blunder to have united with the Cleveland Democrats in assailing the Sherman Act. It was a concession that the sharp and sudden depression which followed the election of 1892 was not traceable to the destruction of confidence on the part of the manufacturers, but to our purchases of silver. Subsequent experience indeed has shown how inadequate was the explanation given by Mr. Cleveland and his followers, to account for the rapid decay of confidence. The cessation of purchases of silver, so far from restoring confidence, was followed by a still farther decline of it. Of the six hundred banks who shut their doors in that panic of 1893, the majority did so after silver had ceased to be purchased. Latterly the Republicans have been trying to swing round from Mr. Cleveland's position to their own. But they are embarrassed by the record of what they said in their sudden access of gold fever, and they are discredited to some extent before the country as diagnosticians of its situation and its need. They do not "talk tariff" with anything like the boldness they had before they compromised themselves with the gold factor, the usurers and their organs.

Prof. John B. Clark of Columbia College has so much faith in gold monometallism that he has framed an argument in its defence, without calling bimetallists bad names of any sort. Such a man deserves a respectful hearing, however fallacious his reasonings may appear. He argues from the relation of money to labor. That, he thinks, would be an ideal money which, at different dates, would buy the same amount of labor. As labor grows in its power to produce commodities, this would mean an increasing power of gold to procure other articles of desire. It is therefore no argument in favor of the restoration of silver that gold will buy more calico to-day than it did fifty years ago. It ought to buy more, if its value sustains any fixed relation to that of human labor.

Now, in the first place, even if we grant Prof. Clark's general theory of the matter, this by no means suffices to vindicate monometallism. The fact lies patent in all the statistics of prices for the last twenty years, that gold has risen in value (*i.e.*, in purchasing power) far faster than has labor. Does Prof. Clark suppose that a day's labor will produce twice as much corn or cotton

in 1895 as it produced in 1870? Or that the heavy fall in commodities generally, since 1890, stands for a great advance in the power of labor to produce? Even during the present year, we learn from *Bradstreet's*, the prices of the most important food products "have been going steadily down." Manifestly this is a movement quite independent of labor cost, and far outrunning any normal fall of value, through increase of our power over nature.

Nor is Prof. Clark right in assuming that the ideal condition is that of a rise in the purchasing power of money parallel with and equal to that of labor. Gold is one kind of capital, *i.e.*, of the accumulations of past labor, which are used to fertilize present labor. All these accumulations fall in value with the growth of power to replace them. It is just the gain of labor that while they fall in value, it rises, and thus in the great partnership of industry the laborer is able to command the services of capital on terms increasingly favorable to himself. There is no reason for making gold an exception to this rule, any more than iron or copper. Throughout the great periods of civilized advance, gold fell as did other commodities, and at times even faster. Between 1492 and 1792 it fell, according to Humboldt, to one twelfth of its purchasing power at the former date. This period of fall was one of great industrial advance in Europe, where it took place. Between 1810 and 1840 its growing scarcity checked this fall and even reversed the tendency. The result was an era of industrial destruction and repression. From 1850 to 1870 the fall was resumed and kept equal pace with the general decline in commodities, or at times outran it, so as to alarm Chevalier, Cobden, and other believers in the "stable value" of coinage. It is only since 1870 that the civilized world has committed the *betise* of inflicting upon itself voluntarily the depression and constriction of 1810 to 1840, and of the centuries of industrial stagnation which preceded the discovery of America.

A few days ago *The Ledger* was abusing one of our public men for pointing out the inadequacy and uncertainty of the much advertised revival of business. On Saturday last its New York correspondent was obliged to admit that the critic of our financial and industrial situation had the right on his side. He spoke of "a halt in the march of business improvement" as having occurred, tracing it to the promise of a heavy deficit in the national revenue, the adverse balance of trade, and the likelihood of fresh exports of gold. Even the higher prices for cotton, which have been taken as an especial sign of better times, he had to admit, are the effects of merely speculative trading, and have hurt us by checking the export of the staple. Cotton has not risen in the markets of the world, as it has on our own exchanges, and all we have achieved by the efforts of the bulls is to force up the price to our own manufacturers, while their European rivals buy elsewhere and cheaper.

It is a pity that Congress is not in session to furnish a handy explanation of depression, such as we are now enduring. The last Congress was bad enough in itself, but it was blamed far beyond its deserving. The next, which will be as good as a nullity, through the balance of parties and the hostility of the President to any steps the House may be willing to take, may expect to be abused from first to last. It certainly will not be able to do much good, with a free trade and gold standard President in the executive chair, and backed in both these follies by quite half of the Senate.

We can see no revival of business while the prices of our commodities are forced down almost to the vanishing point by the competition of the silver using nations, and with the earnings of our producers absorbed in paying the steadily increasing interest on their debts. Even a better tariff, much as we need it, will effect no return of prosperity under the conditions created by our monometallist policy.

Two cities of the Union have had the problem of the public library solved for them. Boston effected this out of her own resources, aided by the gift of splendid private collections. Her Public Library, both architecturally and socially, is one of the glories of the city. Pittsburg, which stands at the other extreme among the great cities of the North, as probably the least interested of any in art and literature, has just dedicated a magnificent library, the gift of Mr. Carnegie. Philadelphia, which once took the lead in such matters, is not only behind these sister cities, but is about to abandon all her best achievement in this field. The Finance Committee of Councils has voted a recommendation to turn over to the so-called Public Library, now located in Egyptian Hall, the several public libraries heretofore established throughout the city, and to pay to this private corporation the \$50,000 a year now expended in maintaining them. Apart from the bad principle involved in thus transferring an important branch of the people's education to a private and close corporation, this step is a grave blunder as regards the efficiency of the work. The City gets nothing worth the having from this so-called Public Library. It is a new institution, with an utterly inadequate endowment for a great library, and no prospect of any considerable increase. It is so closely identified with the family of the donor, as to close the door to any prospect of great accession from other quarters. If any such step as this were to be taken, it would have been better to have accepted the offer of the Mercantile Library to transfer its whole property to city ownership and control. That Library has rendered inestimable services to the city in the past. It has a stock of books, which in some departments, is unsurpassed in this country. It asked no continued existence as a body of control. The Public Library, indeed, offers to give to the city the alternate nominations of its board of trustees as vacancies arise. But a trustee once appointed, secures a life tenure, and is no more subject to the city's control than are those chosen by the incorporators. In effect the city would place its annual library expenditures beyond its own control. It would place the local libraries in the hands of a body which would have every motive for reducing them to mere distributing offices of a centralized system. It would thus destroy the wise distribution, which is best adapted to the needs of a city as widely spread as our own. It would give no security that the delicate questions which must arise as to the selection of books would be exercised by persons responsible to the City and in harmony with the public opinions of its people.

Such a reasonless change of policy did not occur spontaneously, as may be supposed, to the Finance Committee. It was worked up at a dinner party, to which the public were not invited, and at various private conferences held by the representatives of the Public Library. Not until the whole was ripe was it sprung upon the public, and it was disposed of in committee with a haste which showed that the majority had made up their minds before the meeting. Will the Councils sanction such a proceeding as this?

SOME features of the political campaign in Utah have confirmed the fear of those who regarded that Territory as not yet fit for admission into the Union as a State. In former elections Utah always voted with the Democratic party, as being that which had shown the least antagonism to the "twin relics of barbarism." The interest of the people in the wool crop has made many of them favor the Republican party since polygamy became a dead issue. The church authorities seem to have reached the conclusion that the Republican policy is the best for Utah, and to have thrown their weight on that side. They even went so far as to inflict some kind of church censure upon members of their church who accepted nominations at the hands of the Democratic party. This, we are glad to see, was sharply and openly resented by the citizens thus censured. It is well that the people of Utah

show the courage to assert their manhood against encroachments on their rights, however mistaken they may be on specific political issues. But it is not possible to forget that the church of the Latter-Day Saints is one of the most compact and domineering of corporations, and that once more it has shown its readiness to assert its authority in matters which are not the business of a church. It is rather surprising that the public has taken the matter so quietly. If the Roman Catholic hierarchy had entered the political arena in this fashion the country would have rung with indignant protests. The average American possibly feels toward the Saints as the English bishop did toward the old pagans, when he said: "It is a comfort that they were not Papists, at any rate."

Is Canada getting ready for a war on the United States? Her commissioners are in Washington, trying to effect an agreement as to the payment of the Behring Sea indemnity claimed by her sealers. But along the Alaska line, or what she claims as such, she seems to be making preparations for war. It is true that the officials carrying on these preparations are called police, not soldiers; but their operations and preparations are distinctly military. They are occupying strategic points, the despatches say, and throwing up breastworks, as though expecting an invasion from our side. What complicates the matter is that the line thus claimed is not conceded on our side, and has not been determined by any international agreement. It has sprung into importance through the opening of gold mines, and through the artificial appreciation of that metal making it worth while to wash deposits, not especially rich, under an arctic sky, and at a great distance from any base of supplies.

Thus far these Canadian operations merely amuse us. But if they should result in a collision with our miners on ground not admittedly Canadian, the result would be serious. For this reason it would have been well for the Canadian government to have waived its claim until the matter was adjusted scientifically to the satisfaction of both parties. But in truth Canada has a deeply rooted dislike of us, which is as intense as the general antipathy felt by the rest of mankind to England.

It seems quite probable that the Armenians have begun to rise against their oppressors. Turkish rule, indeed, is so bad that the miseries of a defeated revolt are not much worse than the sufferings of a time of peace. So the people have no motive to remain at peace, and there is always a chance that war may bring deliverance, possibly in annexation to Russia. In earlier times, and as late even as the Crusades, the Armenians were good fighters. Lori Melikoff is an instance that ages of oppression have not extinguished their military capacity. For centuries, however, it has seemed impossible to bring them to the point of resistance. Last century an Armenian named Joseph Ewin, whom Burke befriended, made an effort to rouse his countrymen, but returned from his expedition to confess his complete failure to his English friends. In our time the rise of a new literature and a new political spirit has been promoted, partly by contact with American missionaries, and partly by intercourse with the west of Europe. Hence the rise of the revolutionary party, which aims at the forcible liberation of the country, if diplomatic measures fail. And diplomacy has failed. The announcement of the futile agreement between the Sultan and the Powers has been followed by an outbreak of despairing insurrection, which probably will appeal more to European sympathy than all their sufferings. Their European friends, indeed, have come to the conclusion that nothing can be done for Armenia until the people follow the heroic example of Greece, Bosnia and Bulgaria.

A WARNING TO REPUBLICANS.

THE state elections of last Tuesday were decided largely on local issues, and outside of Kentucky and Ohio, national issues were given little, if any, prominence in the campaign. In Maryland and New Jersey the people triumphed decisively over bossism, and in Maryland solely, and in New Jersey largely, it was against bossism and the evils of bossism that Republicans and Independent Democrats made the campaign. In New York, too, especially in the city, though this issue was overshadowed by the question of closing the saloons on Sunday, Republicans and Independents opposed themselves to bossism, and though Tammany carried the city, the majority was not such as in former years. It is a hopeful sign that there is a large and seemingly growing class of independent voters, who, refusing to be bound by party ties, stand ready to cast their votes for pure government, as against bossism. It is to this element in the Democratic party that Republican success in Maryland and New Jersey is largely due.

The results in Ohio and Kentucky are of wider interest, as bearing on the general political situation. That Ohio should have given the Republican candidate for Governor a majority second only in the history of the Republican party in Ohio to that rolled up a year ago is not surprising. Of all industries adversely effected by the Wilson-Gorman tariff, none was more directly or injuriously effected than the sheep industry, and with the farmers of Ohio sheep raising, to supply both markets for wool and mutton, had grown to large proportions. With the placing of wool on the free list, and bringing the wool growers of Ohio into unprotected competition with those of Argentine and Australia, wool has fallen, and the value of the flocks have been cut in half since the first of the year. In fact, the industry of sheep raising has been well nigh annihilated.

With this object lesson before them, Ohio farmers have again repudiated the Wilson tariff and Democratic policies in general. No doubt the candidature of Mr. Brice for re-election to the United States Senate also helped to roll up the Republican majority, for Senator Brice not only stands for bossism, but is the exemplification of trusts and monopolies. In Ohio the financial question cut no figure between Republicans and Democrats, both parties adopting planks as non-committal as possible, and capable of any interpretation.

It is in Kentucky that the silver question took the all important part. General Hardin pronounced himself before nomination to be an unflinching supporter of free coinage. The administration made every effort to defeat his nomination, but without avail, and since nomination has covertly given its support to Mr. Bradley, the Republican candidate, pledged to the gold standard. With the administration and the power of patronage arrayed against him Mr. Hardin has failed to gain the coveted prize.

But there is one great question of vital importance before the Republican party that remains unsolved—a question unchanged by the elections. One year ago the voters of the United States declared in no uncertain way their dissatisfaction with the administration of Mr. Cleveland, repudiated the doctrine of free trade, and declared their firm adherence to the policy of protection. The victory last fall was decisive; many prominent Democrats were relegated to private life, and the party seemed so discouraged and broken that Republicans felt assured of success in the Presidential canvas of 1896. The Republican party was ensconced again in the favor of the people. It only needed to adopt, as a party, a decisive and courageous financial policy to unite with common bonds, Republicans of all sections, east and west, and a successful, prosperous and useful future was open before the party.

But the assumed Republican leaders and self-styled Republican editors who are permitted to speak for Republicans in the east have rightly or wrongly, wrongly we believe, let it be understood that eastern Republicans are opposed to an independent financial policy. Many would-be Republican leaders, prominent presiden-

tial aspirants, seem to have no policy at all save a waiting policy, will favor no policy, oppose no policy, espouse no cause until convinced that it is the winning side. A Reed, or McKinley, or Harrison, who places political exigencies before principle, and refuses to lead, is not fit for such leadership. Moreover, such leadership cannot win.

It is time that Republicans, we speak not of Republican politicians, awaken from their lethargy. We have tried to make clear from time to time that protection and bimetalism are inseparable parts of the same system—twin brothers, as Mr. Dobson aptly put it; that protection and gold-monometallism are incompatible, and that protection under gold-monometallism would not protect.

To those manufacturers, Republicans who believe that prosperity is dependant on protection, we would now add a word of warning.

Politically, the success of the Republican party in 1896 is impossible if it is to stand for gold-monometallism. We speak with knowledge.

The West, the Rocky Mountain West, will not support a Republican gold-monometallist for President or a Republican on a gold-monometallic platform. These States have heretofore been Republican. They gave the votes in the Senate to pass the McKinley bill, and at all times they have sincerely, unhesitatingly and from principle—for they were but indirectly benefited by many of the tariff schedules—given their support to Protection. Such men as Teller, of Colorado, and Jones, of Nevada, have ever been foremost in standing by the Eastern Republicans, and none have more ably defended Protection. Western Republicans remained firm in their faith in the Republican party in the face of the repeal of the Sherman act, made possible only by Republican votes. They have seen the direct interests of their States assailed by Republican Senators; they have seen their demands for recognition ridiculed, but they have steadfastly stood by their party, believing that their Eastern brethren would in the end see Protection and bimetalism to be inseparable parts of the same system.

But as day by day goes by and they see Republican leaders vacillate, Republican newspapers support the gold-monometallic policy of a Democratic President, they are losing faith.

The estrangement that separates the two sections of the party grows wider day by day, as bimetalists in the East continue to keep silence and the gold papers are permitted to voice what they claim to be the sentiment of the party. Such assertions must be challenged, and the true position of Eastern Republicans as bimetalists set forth, or there will be no victory for the Republican party in 1896. Vacillating leaders must be relegated to the rear.

Senators Teller, Wolcott, Jones, Mantle and others have warned Eastern Protectionists of the inevitable disruption of the party that must follow further vacillation, for vacillation will be understood as support of gold-monometallism.

It is customary in some quarters to make light of these words of warning, to underrate the importance of the Western States to Republican victory. But let any Republican, imbued with the ill-defined notion that the Republicans can control the policy of the country or carry the country without the help of the old Republicans of the Western States, at once disimbu himself of the idea. Of the ninety Senators twenty-two, at least, are from States the Republicans of which place bimetalism above party, who would prefer to see Free Trade and Bimetalism than Protection and Gold-monometallism. Of the four hundred and forty-seven Presidential electors such States elect sixty, many more than sufficient, united with the safe Democratic silver States, to elect a Free Trade President pledged to bimetalism.

Large majorities in Pennsylvania, Ohio and New York will not help the Republican party. Republicans can not dispense with the support of the Western States.

Let Eastern Republicans take warning before it is too late, for every day of inaction broadens the breach and makes it more

difficult to heal. The fate of the Republican party, of the protective system, is in the hands of the manufacturers of Philadelphia.

IS OUR CURRENCY REDUNDANT?

THE *New York Post* tells us that only by contracting our currency can we hope to prevent the gradual depletion by exportation of our stock of gold. And if we suicidally persist in adhering to the gold standard, the *Post* is not far wrong.

The argument of the *Post* is in brief this: Our currency being redundant, prices rule so high that foreigners refuse to buy our cotton, wheat and other products. We must, therefore, retire our "greenbacks" and Treasury notes—contract our currency by some \$500,000,000—causing prices of our farm products to fall until England finds it cheaper to buy here than in India, Mexico or Argentine. Otherwise we cannot hope to prevent gold exports. Such is the position taken by the *Post*.

Our people are, however, not suffering or complaining of the evils of a redundant currency, but quite the reverse. A redundant currency means cheap money, and cheap money means high prices, yet excepting cotton, the prices of agricultural products, taken together, are lower to-day than they have been since the discovery of the gold fields of California. Surely it is not from the evils of a redundant but from an insufficient currency that our farmers suffer, and while iron and steel manufactures, hides and leather and some other products have advanced since the first of the year, prices, as a whole, are much below the average of three years ago. Nor is there a producer of any kind, even the most favored, who would not welcome a further rise of prices. Even the *Post* has welcomed rising prices as a sign of returning prosperity.

Many speak glibly of our currency as redundant and demand the cancellation of the "greenbacks" and Treasury notes, but few would welcome lower prices. If prices are too high, then our currency is redundant, not otherwise. If we suffer from high prices we should seek the remedy in contraction, but if we suffer from low prices to retire our "greenbacks" and Treasury notes would be to deliberately add to our distress.

Yet from its stand-point the *Post* is not wrong. We can only prevent gold exports by offering our products at sufficiently low prices to attract foreign buying in such volume as will turn the balance of trade in our favor to an amount sufficient to offset \$200,000,000 of gold due in Europe annually as interest on our foreign debt, and pay the expenses of travellers abroad and freights due foreign ship owners on our imports, at least \$100,000,000 more. Or failing this, we must offer our securities at such prices as to induce foreigners to reinvest their interest as it falls due. Otherwise gold must go.

Wheat at sixty-five cents and cotton at nine cents are not taken freely by foreign buyers, simply because wheat and cotton can be bought cheaper in India, Mexico and Argentine. To prevent gold exports, the *Post* tells us, we must induce foreign buying in excess of what we buy. This is self-evident. It is the means of bringing this about that we question. Shall we contract our currency so that wheat can be laid down in New York at fifty cents and cotton at five, which means thirty-five cents to the farmer and three and one-half or four cents to the planter? Shall we thus induce foreign buying by impoverishing the farmer and planter? Would the farmers and planters be recompensed for lower prices and entailed suffering by a check to gold exports or even by imports of gold? This is the question for farmer and planter to answer. To support gold-monometallism is to answer it affirmatively, for such is the inevitable sacrifice that persistency in the gold standard will entail upon us.

Prices must be made so low that the British trader finds America a good market to buy in, but a poor market to sell in—a

market in which he can buy food and raw materials cheaper than in India or Mexico or Argentine, but in which he is not inclined to sell. This is what gold-monometallism will bring us to, for only thus, under gold-monometallism can we prevent the drain of gold to Europe, the exhaustion of our stock of gold and final suspension of gold payments.

Such a price, we firmly believe, our people are not willing to pay for gold-monometallism. To our producers the loss of all our gold, silver monometallism, would be more preferable.

But this is not necessary. By restoring bimetallism, expanding the basis of our currency instead of contracting the superstructure of credit money to the narrow gold basis, we can keep gold and silver in circulation side by side. The gold-monometalist believes, or at least feigns to believe, this to be impossible. He says we must turn the balance of trade much in our favor; that only thus can we keep our gold. We answer certainly. He says it is only possible to turn the balance of trade sufficiently in our favor by contracting our currency and thus causing such a fall in prices as to induce foreign buying. We answer this is not only ruinous but needless. The English trader does not seek our products, because he can buy cheaper in India, Argentine, or Mexico. Raise the price to the Englishman of wheat or cotton bought in India and Mexico, and he will buy from us at prices much higher than those now ruling.

That it is preferable to make a market for our surplus products at higher prices, rather than beg for a market at lower, any gold-monometalist, whose feelings are not deadened to the sufferings of our people, must admit. But is this possible? Assuredly it is. The Englishman now buys in India, in Mexico and other silver-using nations, paying with silver or silver exchange—silver that has remained of stable purchasing power in those countries even since the Western world struck it down. We have simply to raise the price of silver by opening our mints, and the Englishman, no longer finding it possible to buy silver with which to pay for purchases made in silver-using countries at sixty-seven cents an ounce, but forced to pay our mint price, to wit, \$1.29, would at once find the cost of buying in silver-using countries doubled, and he would eagerly turn to our markets to buy cotton and wheat, so long as the price was not doubled here.

It is thus that we can remove competition for the markets of Europe, not by raising prices in silver-using countries, but by raising the cost to the British and other European importers that which he must send in settlement for his purchases.

By opening our mints to silver we have it in our power to make a market for the products of the farm at rising prices. Having done this we should raise such a protective tariff as would check imports. Then with smaller imports and larger and higher-priced exports, the balance of trade would turn sufficiently in our favor to enable us to meet our interest and other obligations abroad without shipping gold. It is easier to pay interest with wheat at a dollar than fifty cents and other products in like proportion.

The remedy for our sufferings and the only way to prevent gold exports that is not ruinous, is by adopting the twin policy of Bimetallism and Protection.

PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

UNDER date of October 26th, *Bradstreet's*, a financial journal wedded to gold-monometallism, but enjoying a well earned reputation for reliability, painstaking investigation and impartiality in the presentation of facts, remarked under the caption of "Reaction in Prices During the Past Quarter" that "It requires no special investigation to point out that which has been a matter of common observation, that much of the advance in quotations shown between April 1 and July 1, this year, has been lost since then."

Not only have the advances recorded during the late spring

and early summer been for the most part lost—the only notable exceptions being cotton, iron and steel products, hides and leather—but in many instances prices are lower than ever before. This is especially marked with agricultural products, which, as a whole, show considerably lower prices to-day than those recorded in January last, which are often referred to as bottom prices. Yet this period is frequently spoken of by the gold papers as one of rising values.

Prices of breadstuffs, wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye and flour, as given by *Bradstreet's*, were without exception lower on October 1st than July 1st, and with the exception of wheat and flour lower on October 1st than on January 1st. The picture shown by live stock, steers, sheep, hogs and horses is not different. Horses alone were of greater value on October 1st than on the first of the year.

With prices of breadstuffs 38 per cent. lower on the average than on January 1st, 1891, a period itself of low prices, and 12 per cent. lower than on January 1st, 1895; with live stock showing a general fall in value of 21 per cent. since July 1st, last, wiping out the advance of the spring and summer, and 6 per cent. besides, the farmer has little ground for encouragement. The much spoken of period of rising prices has not materialized for him.

To those who care for detail we present the following table of index numbers based on quotations given by *Bradstreet's*. The index numbers are based on prices ruling January 1st, 1891, and show a rise or fall in general prices compared to those quoted on that date. Under BREADSTUFFS are included wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye and flour, and under LIVE STOCK beeves (steers), sheep, hogs and horses:

	Breadstuffs.	Live Stock.
January 1st, 1891,	100.00	100.00
April 1st, "	118.31	116.98
July 1st, "	103.90	110.38
October 1st, "	97.94	112.49
January 1st, 1892,	97.17	104.35
April 1st, "	89.45	110.13
July 1st, "	92.58	113.53
October 1st, "	82.77	104.88
January 1st, 1893,	80.59	119.68
April 1st, "	79.99	125.28
July 1st, "	73.62	110.01
October 1st, "	74.82	108.34
January 1st, 1894,	68.46	101.33
April 1st, "	70.38	97.78
July 1st, "	74.32	92.42
October 1st, "	69.08	101.57
January 1st, 1895,	70.58	84.88
April 1st, "	72.45	104.41
July 1st, "	75.83	100.54
October 1st, "	62.53	79.54

With prices for farm products lower than ever before, the outlook for our farmers is dismal enough. They have worked harder than ever before, struggling against ruin that is inevitable, if prices continue to fall. Nature has liberally rewarded their efforts, but they must sell the products of their farms at prices so ruinously low that the recompense for their labors is smaller than ever.

It is no wonder the farmers face the future with despair, for instead of enriching them, the harvest has impoverished them. Their crops have cost more to raise than they can be sold for, and there are many cases where sufficient prices cannot be realized to pay the transportation charges from distant farms to seaboard markets, and corn and oats will be burned where raised. Corn raised for food will be used for fuel, and a Kansas City milling company has the proposal under consideration to substitute corn for coal in the generation of steam. Actually steam can be made in Kansas cheaper with corn than coal, yet it is possible, probable, that before the winter is over, we will hear that coal is piling up unused at the mines of Pennsylvania and Ohio, and the miners suffering from the want of food.

The farmer is impoverished, but little sympathy does he get

in his distress. He is railed at as a chronic complainer when, protesting against low prices, he seeks a remedy. When unable, through no fault of his own, to pay interest on the mortgage that covers his farm, or rent, if he is a tenant farmer, he is treated as a knave and accused of dishonesty, and when he demands the restoration of silver to its place as money, he is contemptuously spoken of as an unscrupulous debtor, desirous of peeling down his debts. All this the farmer has borne—borne stoically and without complaint, but the time has come when he owes it as a duty to his country, his family and himself, to make himself heard and his power felt.

The country cannot prosper on the impoverishment of the agricultural classes, and no revival of prosperity can be real or lasting that is not shared in by the farming classes. Our farming classes have not shared in the much heralded, but largely mythical revival of prosperity, a revival of prosperity much noted in newspaper columns, but little felt beyond. Such being the case such revival as has been felt in some lines of production can be but temporary, for all other industries, directly or indirectly, look to the farming classes for a market for the disposal of their surplus products, and through the impoverishment of the farmers this market is not being extended, but curtailed, and must continue to be curtailed so long as the prices of agricultural products continue to fall.

Not till prosperity returns to those engaged in agriculture, and the farmers receiving higher prices for their products are able to purchase extensively, can real and permanent prosperity return to the manufacturing classes.

WOMAN'S WAYS.

WHEN we are weary with the world we go
 Unto the quiet of our homes; and when
 The night is still—and lamps are burning low,
 We do remember all the day's work then!
 And comes a wish before the tired lids close—
 Before we sink into the arms of sleep—
 To kneel to Him who every sorrow knows
 And closer to the heart of Him to creep!
 The children will come home—the play all o'er—
 The school tasks ended, in the twilight chill;
 And with soft clinging arms of love adore
 The sheltering bosom of the mother still!

—Atlanta Constitution.

Modjeska is reported as having said: "Acting is, after all, a little bit of feeling added to a great deal of art. I can never play 'Camille' now without the tears rising involuntarily to my eyes."

J. L. Power, who has been nominated for Secretary of State in Mississippi, says he owes his success to his daughter, Miss Katherine Markham Power. In the midst of his canvass he became seriously ill. Miss Power conducted his campaign from that time on, visited all the delegates, made appeals by voice and letter, and had her efforts crowned with success. Miss Power is editor of *Kate Power's Review*.

The moment a girl has a secret from her mother or has received a letter she dare not let her mother read, or has a friend of whom her mother does not know—she is in danger.

One of the female bandits recently captured in the Oklahoma country was formerly a school teacher, and is said to speak several languages fluently. The causes which led this accomplished person to adopt the bandit business are not known, but as she wore trousers when she was captured it seems probable that her downfall was due to a desire to be new.

In Berlin, that most conservative of cities, the "new woman" has made her appearance. The leader of the smart set is the Countess of Hohenau, a cousin of the Emperor by a morganatic marriage. She is an athletic young woman, and her latest fad is

to discard the use of a riding habit, and to wear instead a coat of soft, clinging material, with very long tails; corduroy knickerbockers of ample dimensions and gaiters of light-colored leather.

Tan or patent-leather shoes and a sailor hat or black velvet jockey cap complete this rather striking costume.

A London writer, with due respect for women journalists, thinks that the only department of a paper that should be closed to a woman is the medical—unless, of course, she is a medical "man." He goes on to say that the medical columns of any London weekly, it is easy to perceive, are conducted by accomplished experts; but a case has recently come under his notice where a young woman who had failed as an art critic was set to answer the medical inquiries of correspondents on a country paper. "I forget to a decimal what was the mortality of the district," he continues, "but the proprietor said if she remained much longer on the paper he should have had no subscribers left. One of her replies was something like this: 'To Daisy—Thanks so much for your kind letter. Yes. The mistake was mine. It should have been a quarter grain of strychnine instead of a quarter of a pound for your father's complaint. How unlucky! Better luck next time, but I was so very busy. Yes. There is no better shop for mourning than Jay's.'"

A CHAPTER ABOUT CHILDREN.

I HAD a fearful dream one night.
I dreamt I was a man.
My face it was an awful sight,
Because a beard of tan
Did cover up my cheek so white,
And down my chin it ran.

I wore a shiny beaver hat
Just like my father wears.
I had a great big silk cravat
And, oh, such lots of cares,
So heavy were my troubles that
I'd two or three gray hairs.

The queerest thing about it, though,
I'd still my toddling walk.
No matter where I'd wish to go,
My feet my step would balk;
And when I'd try to speak, d'you know,
I spoke a baby talk!

Then everybody laughed at me,
And I—I upped and cried;
And then their horrid mean old glee
Made me so horrified,
I rushed up in the nursery
And locked myself inside.

I slammed the door—'twas made of oak—
With all my might and main;
So hard I slammed it that it broke
A part of it in twain.
And then I howled till I awoke
And changed to me again.

That's why now days I always cry
As loudly as I can.
Why tears flow from my great blue eyes
Like gravy from a pan,
When anybody says that I
'M a pretty little man!

Many overcareful mothers, claiming that it makes the child so dirty to creep, encourage the little one to be contented with its high chair or coach, keeping it off the floor at all times, if possible. This is a great mistake. It should be allowed to roll upon the floor as early as it shows a tendency to enjoy this beneficial pastime, and thus thoroughly test and strengthen its muscles, until it shows a desire to accomplish the greater feat of standing and walking. If the child is unusually fat and large for its age, it should be kept off its feet as much as possible, until its muscles are strengthened by creeping, and a little care in this respect will be of great satisfaction to the parents, as well as the child, in after life.

Every baby should have a bath in tepid water, or if the child is feeble and lacks nourishment, bathe it in oil till it gets sufficiently strong to take the water bath. There is no function of daily life so interesting and fascinating as the baby's bath. First get the basket ready with its change of linen. Then put the little bathtub by the

side of the basket, with nice castile soap, soft towels and a big linen sheet. Then lift the baby out of bed and sit in a low chair in front of the bathtub, which must be half filled with water just a little warmer than the baby's temperature. Now undress the baby and spread the sheet down on your lap; cover its body, and with a soft bit of flannel and castile soap wash the baby well from head to foot; then quickly put the little one into the bathtub for a half minute. Lift it out carefully and wrap it up warmly in the sheet, all but the head and face, which should be dried carefully on a soft towel. Now, as quickly as possible, powder the child's body with the best baby powder, using a down puff. Put on its clothing and feed it and let it go to sleep. During extreme hot weather give the baby a sponge bath before putting it to bed at night, and change all its clothing. Put on a light flannel under-vest and a thin cotton nightgown, and do not cover it too warmly.

Six things a boy ought to know:

1. That a quiet voice, courtesy and kind acts are as essential to the part in the world of a gentleman as of a gentlewoman.
2. That roughness, blustering and even foolhardiness are not manliness. The most firm and courageous men have usually been the most gentle.
3. That muscular strength is not health.
4. That a brain crammed only with facts is not necessarily a wise one.
5. That the labor impossible to the boy of fourteen will be easy to the man of twenty.
6. The best capital for a boy is not money, but the love of work, simple tastes and a heart loyal to his friends and his God.

TEA TABLE TALK.

FAMA was the goddess of gossip.

Roman wives whose husbands had gone to war sacrificed to Victoria.

It is estimated that 140,000 conversations, more or less, take place daily over the telephones in Philadelphia.

The "dumb piano" is a new invention on which young ladies can learn music without making any sound.

Belladonna is a preparation from the deadly nightshade, a plant familiar to most persons from being frequently seen as an ornamental shrub in the flower garden. All parts of the plant are actively poisonous, and many fatalities have resulted from the leaves or berries being incautiously chewed or eaten by children or even adults.

Napoleon, who knew the value of time, remarked that it was the quarter hours that won battles. The value of minutes has been often recognized, and any person watching a railway clerk handing out tickets and change during the last few minutes available must have been struck with how much could be done in these short periods of time.

A little over one-sixth of the whole population of Boston is of Irish birth.

So rich and beautiful is much modern factory-made furniture, designed upon antique models that only persons acquainted with the real thing can detect the difference at a glance. This is especially true of such modern factory-made furniture as does not contain elaborate carving. A close observer, however, will at once see that the rush bottoms of factory-made chairs do not fit snugly, having been made separately from the frame and slipped in when finished and painted. The rungs, too, of the modern chair are not of hard wood, but of stained pine, while the bits of ornament that conceal the joints are manifestly stuck on and not part of the original wood. All such furniture is made of new wood, and will seldom long endure a steam-heated apartment. The price, however, is only from one-third to one-half that of the real thing, and for practical purposes the factory-made is for some years quite as good as the hand made article a century old.

NEWSPAPER NOTES.

THE *Doylestown, Pa., Intelligencer's* issue of the 30th ult., was a Woman's Edition, well filled with news and advertisements. A notable feature, and a most commendable one, too, was the absence in its columns of so-called "literary" or magazine articles. Outside of the advertisements, *The Intelligencer* presented the usual appearance of a live, well-patronized country daily newspaper. News was the prominent and all-pervading feature, a most gratifying departure in "Women's Editions" of daily morning or afternoon journals. It is due to those who were actively concerned in "getting out" this edition to tell the readers of *THE AMERICAN* that all of its articles, with one exception, were written by Bucks County women, and that it was the result of an acceptance of an offer of Mr. Alfred Paschall, editor of *The Intelligencer*, who, with his characteristic liberality and enterprise, turned over his newspaper and its receipts for one day to the women of Doylestown's Village Improvement Association. This organization is, by the way, a public-spirited body whose members' sole aim is to so improve their thriving little town as to make residence in it healthy, attractive and desirable. A community with such good women as its leading spirits will surely prosper, for they combine in their praiseworthy work and practical ideas the elements that deserve and obtain success.

**

"What stands the higher in your country, the politician or the literary man?" asked the visiting Englishman.

"Oh," answered the careless native, "they are about even, I guess. One gets vindicated and the other gets syndicated."

**

Mujake Yujiro, a newspaper man of Japan, says that a celebrated Chinese poem, written several hundred years ago by Liu Ting Che, bears a really striking resemblance to "The Last Leaf," by Oliver Wendell Holmes.

**

New Office Boy—"A man called here to thrash you a few moments ago."

Editor—"What did you say to him?"

Boy—"I told him I was sorry you weren't in."

**

The Boston Transcript says that a business man who is a large advertiser, received a letter not long ago from the manager of a religious weekly, soliciting advertising on the ground that the weekly had not only a large circulation, "but a very credulous class of readers."

**

The Catholic Standard and *The Catholic Times*, of this city, have agreed to pool their issues and will, hereafter, be published and known as *The Catholic Standard and Times*. The principal owners of both journals will apply to Governor Hastings, on the 27th inst., for a charter for the consolidated company. *The Standard* was one of our oldest Catholic weekly journals, and was a prosperous publication for many years. With the advent of the *Times* its circulation and advertising patronage began to wane. Its young rival was progressive, enterprising, full of news and edited with such consummate ability as speedily gained for the *Times* a leading position among the religious weeklies of this country. The consolidation was the inevitable result.

**

The Fourth Estate, New York, had "a cut" last week of Mr. Charles R. Deacon—"Our dear Deacon"—the Secretary of the Clover Club and press agent of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company. He is the Philadelphia correspondent of *The Fourth Estate*, and an experienced journalist of national reputation.

If we understand what is meant by "the cubit of a man," the iron bedstead of Og, giant king of Bashan, was 13½ feet in length and 6 feet in width.

OPEN DOORS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"THE SILVER CRAZE IS OVER."

THE methods of those who resist the remonetizing of silver change as circumstances make it from time to time necessary. When it first began to dawn on the popular mind that a great wrong had been done, the monetary system changed and a financial revolution inaugurated in the interests of certain classes, the assertion was boldly made that silver had not been demonetized, "It is as good money as ever and more silver is in circulation than ever before." It nevertheless, became fully and clearly known that silver was no longer money, any more than stamped paper or copper or nickel was money and merely represented gold which is the only money in this country since 1873. When this condition arose, there followed a period of profound silence. The question was ignored or only referred to in a slighting or imperious way as hardly worthy the attention of well balanced minds. Arguments for a single gold basis were not presented nor was the question ever clearly and fairly stated. All those who have watched carefully the conditions the past few years, remember how the advocates of bimetalism goaded their opponents to make them offer some defence, and challenged them to produce a single good argument. Finally they determined to turn back the tide by argument if possible.

Magazine articles appeared, so-called "great statisticians" were employed, great political leaders made this subject the substance of their "key note" speeches at the opening of conventions. Clubs were organized to prepare and send out to the "provincial press" "boiler plate" arguments and satire that would be silencing if not convincing. The few plausible arguments were worked over and over. Every possible side was exhibited and the weakest advocates of the gold basis announced as the highest authorities, damaging figures were denied, and advocates of true bimetalism were called contemptuous names.

This "era of education" has proven too educating. This campaign was sharp but short and has given place now to the policy of placing the silver question as a "back number." We hear now that the "silver craze" has gone by like the "green-back craze."

"Booming prosperity" has settled the "silver fanatics." "It will cut no figure in the Presidential election next year." The determination seems to be, to get this question out of the current of public thought. If possible it is to be passed as settled without the great mass of our people having an opportunity to act upon it.

This lull is only in the seeming. This question has taken hold of the great thinking classes and will not down at the wave of the wand of dictators. This policy will not avail long. What the next move shall be, no one can safely foretell. Certain it is no plan will be left untried, no method neglected that gives the least promise of establishing the gold basis as the permanent policy of this government.

Rev. J. C. ELLIOTT.

Akron, Ohio.

SOME QUERIES ANSWERED.

THE IMMIGRATION QUESTION.

CLEMENTS, Cal., Oct. 21, 1895.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AMERICAN—

DEAR SIR: It seems to me that there is a *very great* lack of solid education on the questions of the day, shown in *The New York Independent* of October 10.

If you can get Dr. Boardman's address it might broaden his ideas to send him a few copies.

I like your paper and the good American ring to its articles, and endorse fully all the new platform—all but the last plank—No. 6.

"VI. We demand legislation that will prohibit immigration of subjects or citizen, of foreign countries, unless such immigrants intend to become citizens of the United States, and unless they can demonstrate that they have not been of the criminal or pauper classes in the countries from which they emigrated."

As our law stands, every man is innocent until found, by trial of judge and jury, guilty. No man is a pauper until he has been on public charity. So it would only keep one out, out of one thousand that come in now, and let in the other nine hundred and ninety-nine, or else cost for trials to keep them out as criminals.

I am in a community a good two-thirds of foreign birth, and they one and all say: "We would have good times and plenty of work if the government of the United States would only stop immigration." "You have too many foreigners here." I was told this by a man himself only here six years. They all want immigration stopped, and the party who stops it gets the most of their votes.

I wish you could give in your paper the proportion of native-born American voters there are to the foreign born. I am sure it will be astonishing to most people.

I understand THE AMERICAN's aim is not so much for "party" as for "country," and to save that country from ruin.

In a room full of people of wide experience, a gentleman advocating the annexation of new territory as a place for young Americans to go to make a start for themselves, he himself being of foreign birth, said: "You have given so generously of your inheritance to other nations there is little show for your own young men." "Ah!" said a lady, "we have made a refuge for the poor and oppressed of other nations until our poor and oppressed must find relief from other nations." "Just so, madam, and I wish you all could see it to be so, for I am grateful to America and would gladly save her sorrow if I could."

It would seem to be a "casting of the children's heads to the dogs" if we judge by the character of the majority of immigrants. It was not so in colonial times, for then it was religious oppression, not poverty, that drove them here.

Most respectfully yours,

MRS. F. WILBUR NUGENT.

The United States Census of 1890 shows a total male population of voting age of 16,940,311, of which persons of foreign birth number 4,348,459, and those of native birth 12,591,852. The aggregate white population of voting age is given at 15,199,856, 10,957,496 native born and 4,242,360 foreign born. Of the native male voting population 8,807,223 are the sons of native parents, while 2,150,273 are born of foreign parents. The total colored population of voting age was 1,740,455.

The voting population of the eight largest cities is as follows:

	Total voters.	Native.	Foreign.
New York,	446,798	177,729	269,069
Chicago,	331,593	133,109	198,484
Philadelphia,	307,274	191,785	115,489
Brooklyn,	225,607	112,666	112,941
St. Louis,	130,056	73,450	56,606
Boston,	137,910	74,179	63,731
Baltimore,	116,658	86,797	29,861
San Francisco,	116,350	41,146	75,204

SOCIOLOGICAL SUBJECTS.

Under a new ordinance in Griffin, Ga., a bar room in that town may not connect with another room, and must have but one doorway, for entrance and exit. Even if the proprietor of the bar lives in the building in which it is situated, he must have a separate entrance to his house, and from his bar must go out into the street in order to get into his home. The object of the ordinance is obvious.

According to a recent telegram Herbert Spencer, who has often been classed as a Socialist, says: "The assertion that any of my views favor Socialism causes me great irritation. I believe the advent of Socialism to be the greatest disaster the world has ever known."

New York Tribune: The recent census, it is now admitted, though not officially announced, shows that there are at least 50,000 children in this city between the ages of eight and sixteen years for whom there is no room in the public schools. The result of the enumeration, confirming the estimate of Mr. Riis and other close observers, brings into prominence a very grave problem which will not be easily solved.

A sect calling itself "The Peculiar People" is attracting attention in England from the number of deaths among its children, due to its trusting entirely to the Lord and refusing to call in doctors. One mother testified before the Coroner's jury that she had allowed five children out of six to die of bronchitis in this way. They call in the doctor when an animal is sick, for the Bible says nothing against that.

Bradstreet's: An investigation into the employment of women and girls lately conducted by the labor department of the British Board of Trade, presents results somewhat at variance with those disclosed by the census investigation in the United States, the statistics of which have recently been made public. According to the British investigation, the current view that women's employment is rapidly extending and that women are replacing men to a considerable extent in industry is not confirmed. It appears that the employment of married and of elderly women has, on the whole, diminished, and that the employment of women in casual occupations has also declined. There has been an increase in the employment of women and girls under twenty-five years of age, which has, however, been concurrent with a similar extension in the employment of young men and boys.

ART AND SCIENCE.

WEEDS along railroad tracks are now killed by the "electric weed-killer." It consists of a car carrying a dynamo which sends a heavy current into a sort of rake of fine wires dragging among the weeds on each side of the track. As the wires touch them the weeds are "electrocuted" down to their smallest rootlets. It is proposed to introduce the same system in farming.

For the past forty or fifty years the geographers and astronomers have suspected that on account of a "tilting" in the earth's axis, the latitude of all places on the earth's surface is gradually changing. A few years ago (1892) the astronomers decided to make a test case of the matter, and now report that the theory is correct. For example they have proven that Berlin was fifty-one feet nearer the pole in September, 1892, than it was in March of the same year. If Peary and Wellman will only be patient, the pole will come to them.

Scientists who have been wedded to the theory that we shall one day be able to communicate between one planet and another must regard the present trend of speculation and knowledge in the world of science with some complacency. It was announced some time ago that Mr. Lowell, the astronomer who conducted a series of investigations at Flagstaff (Arizona) observatory, on the canals and other features of Mars, had become convinced that the planet is inhabited by intelligent beings. His explanation of the "oases" connecting the "canals" is that they are fertile spots of an oval or circular shape, usually about 100 or 150 miles in diameter, and of green so dark that it is quite distinct in the telescope at the distance of 40,000,000 miles. He says that it changes with the season like that of the foliage of the earth. Following on these speculations, now comes Tesla's marvelous discovery that not only has the earth an electrical charge of its own, but that this charge can be demonstrated and utilized. This means that we have now at hand an inexhaustible source of power of which the whole world can avail itself; in other words, that every bit of machinery in operation on this earth can be actuated by electricity drawn from the earth itself. This discovery also opens up the way for transmitting intelligence all over the world without wires.

But to astronomers the most interesting bearing of these new facts is that they render possible a system of communicating with the inhabitants of other worlds. If this earth has an electrical charge, and all the other heavenly bodies have the same, as undoubtedly they have, the first great difficulty in the problem of interplanetary communication has been overcome, and we have found a means of sending messages across chasms of space.

OUR PARIS LETTER.

PARIS, October 25, 1895.

ISRAEL is in a quandary; Faringhea, *i.e.*, the Jew barons, have not spoken, and the satellites of those financial planets are all at sea. The Chosen People are afraid to buy and don't like to sell, especially as no one can venture an authoritative opinion about: The what next? The Armenian puzzle left the Bourse indifferent, the logical opinion then being that too many nations are interested in the maintenance of peace to allow of any immediate partition of Ottoman spoils the which would, fatally, be the signal of a general European conflagration. So, as long as this question was on the tapis, the variation of all government securities was less than insignificant, to the greater joy of speculators in and promoters of "wild cat" gold mines. Suddenly the telegraph flashed the news that Tananarive had been taken, that the queen of that ilk had signed—nobody yet knows exactly what—and the "bulls" dashed boldly to the front, with a lively rise in the financial barometer. Equally precipitously this glee was turned into sorrow: Lo! another dispatch came to tell of the tragic death of the Corean queen, at the instigation of her father-in-law, prompted, it is more than merely hinted, by the Japanese, whose influence she combated. "Look out for coming squalls!" quoth the "bears," "there are breakers ahead!" and immediately the stock market collapsed, and, with a little encouragement, might have registered another panic.

Now, on general principles, and as I have already said, international relations are more vitally interested in questions where Turkey is the bone of contention, than in any of those affecting the extreme East, which, internationally viewed, are secondary, and not of a nature to bring about a European war. This eventuality therefore may be set aside, whether the Mikado or the Tsar becomes the *Suzerain* of the coveted peninsula, the autonomy of which, both protest, is the wish nearest to their respective hearts, and, for both, more or less sincere, especially as Japanese pretension to supremacy there was the real cause of last year's quarrel with China, the results of which ought to convince the most incredulous Occidental that in the extreme East a great power, with which Europe must soon count, had sprung into existence.

Perhaps the incident of which Seoul has so recently been the theatre, may be the prelude to other grave events. On this point, however, we are still in the conjectural period; we have no certain data, no details to speculate upon, nothing but the news, personal, yet founded on observation of those who, having inhabited the debatable land, know, presumably, something about it.

The missionaries—ex-residents there—are pessimist; they tell you that the Coreans have no sympathy with the Japanese, to whom they prefer John Chinaman, traditionally, so to speak, but very poor and grossly ignorant they are, and must continue to be oppressed and victimized by whomsoever they are governed. For Japan the acquisition of the kingdom would be invaluable, separated as it is from the Empire of the Rising Sun by only a narrow arm of the sea, and being, relatively, close to Peking. But, on the other hand, Corea would be equally valuable to Russia, as yet without any safe naval station on the Pacific coast.

Conclusion, from the statements at the seminary of foreign missions: Japan and Russia must sooner or later, and rather sooner than later, come to blows on the question: Who shall be king?

This view of the situation is shared by Mr. Leon de Rosny whose competency in Asiatic affairs is universally admitted. Mr. Rosny has been interviewed by several Japanese of high political standing, and has learned from them, when congratulated by him on their brilliant victories, that: "We will never be satisfied until we shall have beaten some European power, if it be only the Principality of Monaco."

Wanamaker's

Spectacles No, they neither signify old age or write one down as affected. When eye-use frequently reminds you that you have eyes it is Nature's pleading for relief. In very many cases the cause is so simple that we can safely correct it. But we never let you take chances—if you need the aid of an oculist WE WILL NOT SELL YOU LENSES unless upon a prescription. Spectacles at 50c to \$10.

Juniper street side.

Men's Shoes EASIER to make a good-wearing \$3 Shoe than to make an absolutely right \$5 Shoe—if you are not over particular as to looks. But to make a dressy shoe that will give excellent wear and make the price \$3 is quite another question. It is a science to assemble fine looking leathers of absolute merit and put them together in the good Philadelphia way and produce thereby a handsome shoe to sell at \$3.

That is why we are proud of these MEN'S WINTER RUSSETS ready at \$3.

double soles
plump uppers
four popular toes, from razor to wide French
all sizes

Oh, yes, there are other Winter Russets ready—\$3.90, \$5 and \$6. Market street.

Jerseys from Paris

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Mr. Rosny declares that, all absurd though it be, such is the dominant spirit of the nation, which, last year, was ready to fight anybody and only calmed down when it ascertained that nearly all Europe followed, resolutely, the Russian lead. But that check to their ambition rankles in the breasts of the yellow boys, and they would declare war to-morrow against the Russians, whom they believe themselves to be strong enough to conquer, if they did not fear another western combination. Nor is Russia their only bugbear; they bear a grudge to the French for their action in the revision of the Simonsaki treaty, and have already planned the compensation—nothing less than the cession of Cochin China!!!—which they propose to exact for that “unqualifiable intervention.”

Similar aspirations verge upon insanity, to the European mind, but it should be remembered that the Japanese have managed to obtain from Europe the recognition of their conquest of Formosa, which, since Admiral Courbet's campaign, had been considered as the future outpost of France in Chinese waters, and which, at present, is a standing menace to Tonkin. This menace may become extremely serious, should the contemplated Chino-Japanese alliance enter the domain of “accomplished facts;” it will bring into conflict Europe with that Asian world which now possesses all the resources of European science.

Such is, apparently, the aim of Japanese policy, and its bearings explain the importance of that Korean question which is still obscure in its details.

Corea was a dependency of China; Japan gave to it independence, or, to be precise, gave to it a change of protectors. Japan opened Corean markets to foreign trade, and, naturally, claims for itself the lion's share of all profit therefrom. The Japanese soldiery now there came merely to perpetuate and consolidate that situation, very favorable to their country's interests, if telegrams thence can be credited, and there is every reason to suppose that the Japanese are pleased at the riddance of such of the nations as are hostile to their supremacy. The Queen, heretofore quite out of any political movement, was supposed to be favorable to the opposite party, and was “suppressed” by the lively action of a few *Soshi*, a designation, by the way, applied to “strong, hard-fisted fellows,” and not the title of any political sect, as is generally but erroneously stated. What has been done is the indication of a state of anarchy, by which the Japanese may seek to profit, on the usual pretext, “the restoration of order in the interests of humanity.” It remains to be seen whether Russia will abandon her expectant attitude—also on the same plea,—and should she so elect to do, the situation will go, from present bad, to future worse. Here is the conundrum: What will Russia undertake to do?

The Japanese are vastly exercised as to Russia's future intention and their anxiety cannot have been allayed by the declaration of Mr. Chiskir, who runs the foreign affair department, in Prince Lobanof's absence, that his Imperial Majesty proposed to order such measures as he considered necessary for the safe guard of Russian interests; that Corea should be made independent of all foreign pressure and this in reply to the question: what measures were meditated? “Russia will do her duty without caring whether that might be pleasing or displeasing to other powers. *She will permit no encroachments.*” And from this it may be concluded that Russia will operate effectively that France, being Russia's official ally will co-operate and that if the Japanese are intelligent, they will abandon a game, where their adversaries hold all the trumps. M. de Rosny's argumentation about the “Yellow Peril” is logical, and no one can deny the existence of that peril, but, precisely because, if ambitious, the Japanese are intelligent, they are not likely to compromise the results of their glorious achievements, and for this reason I prophesy an amicable arrangement, premising, however, that one very important factor is wanting to any solution of an extreme-eastern problem; in Europe Jew influence is omnipotent; the Hebrew magnates can

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make or prevent a European war, by the granting, or the report of subsidies to would be belligerents. In Asia, the Jew is a neglectable quantity; he ranks, socially and politically, as a Pariah dog in Turkey; he can, and certainly will, profit by any of its cataclysms but he can neither foresee, nor favor nor prevent their occurrence.

And for this impotency the Semites of Paris, Berlin and Vienna are sad at heart; like Mr. Micawber they "want for something to turn up" which may guide their faltering footsteps. "S'help me," is their piteous cry "I know not what to do!"

In short, marasmus prevails at the Bourse, where the *Agents de Change*, or official brokers, and the *coulistiers*—outside stock-jobbers, would not earn enough to pay for their shoe leather, were it not for the aforesaid gold mines which grow and flourish like so many forests of green bay trees, spite of the virulent hostility of one or two dailies,—probably not paid to bolster up what they call "frauds," which dailies were equally denunciatory of all American Life Insurance Companies and for the same motive. The New York, the Equitable and the Mutual Life have, however, survived the attack and continue to prosper.

But better days on 'Change are anticipated; something must come to break its wearisome monotony; the Chambers have met; debates there will be lively, if not stormy; the Cabinet may obtain a vote of confidence, or it may be upset and it matters naught which of the two happen, as in the first case the bulls, and in the second, the bears will have it all their own way on the stock market.

The betting on these contingencies is even on either with a slight tendency to make the bulls favorite.

That Mr. Ribot's ministry has been in an unconscionably long time—more than six months—*horribile dictu!* is a point against it, but on the other hand, its incumbents can show with pride that during their sway "France has regained her place among nations" which nobody can deny, since the royal visits to her capital and the invitation to Felix to reciprocate, next year at St. Petersburg. Then too, has not their policy triumphed in the east? Has not the Madagascar expedition resulted in victory?

This last is a "clincher" and is nearly certain to insure a majority. The French have not recorded many victories anywhere since 1870 and they will pass a sponge over the short comings, numerous as sands on the seashore, which have marked this campaign to its successful issue. They were not much impressed by the conquest of Dahomey, perhaps because General Dodds is a colored man, perhaps also because the royal captive Behanzin is said not to be the genuine Behanzin, but a spurious substitution for that protentate, who is represented, "by those who knew him while at home," to be an individual of medium height and of a coffee and milk hue, whereas the prisoner is a coal black giant. This *passim*.

Only one of the threatened interpellations may prove dangerous! Why did the government interfere for the "patron" against the "strikers" of Carmaux? Is this liberty? Is not the right to strike for higher wages one of the primordial rights of citizens? Even the Empire would have recoiled from such an act of tyranny; it would not have dared to seize the *striker's fund* and distribute it among those cowards who, deserting their comrades, resumed work!

The government would be seriously imperilled by this onslaught, if it were not that the country has grown weary of socialistic agitation, is beginning to understand that it is made entirely in the interests of a political faction, which cares as little, in reality, for the working classes as does a fish for an apple, while tax payers are dissatisfied by the lavish distribution, from their contributions of subsidies to those who abhor work on principle, for themselves, which if so pleased, they are quite at liberty, but who seek to intimidate others, who, having families to support, prefer the wages of honest labor, fairly enumerated, to idleness with starvation or mendacity. This combination will not be tolerated; no government, with a pretension to decency, can look

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with indifference on a movement of which the aim is the destruction of society, as now existing, but with no program for its reconstruction and, although no arrangement *ad hoc* be as yet officially adopted internationally, there is reason to suppose an international tacit understanding, to put a stop to its spread on the Continent. Perhaps the next century may witness the crossing of that Rubicon which, now, separates socialism from Anarchy, but we have yet several years of respite to hope for. The Socialists seem to be divided among themselves and even their apologists are obliged to admit, at most, that the Congress at Breslau was "interesting, by the boldness of its answer to William's challenge; that it was made *picturesque and almost amusing by the presence of six female delegates.*" One of these ladies appears to have attracted special notice by the "oddity of her equipment" (*sic*) and also by her origin. Frau Williams of Breslau is nothing less than a daughter of the Duke Erdmann of Wurtemberg whose mother is a Princess Schaumburg Lippé and who gave up rank and title to marry her mamma's doctor. She is related to all the princely families of the Old World and her niece, a daughter of Princess Vora of Wurtemberg is on the eve of marriage with the Crown Prince of Saxe Cobourg, grandson of Queen Victoria, and cousin german of the Tsar.

Mrs. Williams probably, will not be a guest at that wedding, but may console herself therefor with the cats, rabbits and nanny goats which are her chief distractions in the intervals of leisure of her apostleship. Her party, spite of its objurgations of the Kaiser and its defiance of his irritation, is destined to pass a severe winter, without one ray of sunshine. Z.

FOREIGN FACTS AND FANCIES.

ACHYLKA, in Siberia, has a remarkable temperance society. Its members meet in church on the first of September and swear before the altar that they will drink no wine or liquor "from to-morrow morning." They then go out and drink hard all day till no man or woman is left sober. For the rest of the year they are total abstainers.

In dredging the harbor of Swinemunde, on the island of Usedom, a church bell weighing five hundred pounds was fished out whole, with the broken half of another bell. From the inscriptions they are believed to have been stolen during the Thirty Years' War and to have been sunk with the vessel that bore them.

La Grande Trappe, the parent of all Trappist monasteries, was lately thrown open to women for the first time in its history, on the occasion of the consecration of its new church by the Bishop of Séz. Before that only three women had crossed its threshold. James II.'s Queen, Mary of Modena, accompanying her husband in 1696, and Queen Amelia and the Duchesse de Nemours, who were with Louis Philippe when he visited the convent in 1847.

At Delphi a fourth Greek hymn has been discovered by the French. It is in honor of Dionysius, belongs to the fourth century before Christ, being thus earlier than the other hymns, and has no musical notation. It contains much historical information.

Retired colonels and majors were among the more than a thousand applicants for the place of hallkeeper to the Armourers' and Braziers' Company in London, which was recently vacant. The salary is \$1,000 and \$250 for extra services.

Amid the ruins of the amphitheatre of Carthage, the scene of the martyrdom of many early Christians, a chapel has been erected in accordance with the wishes of the late Cardinal Laviege.

The prefect of the Paris police has been seriously exercised of late about the increasing popularity of the bloomer as an article of feminine apparel, and he is now supposed to be meditating the

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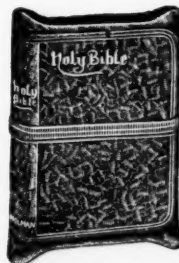
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imposition of restrictions. The rational dress was readily adopted by Parisian ladies when they took to cycling, and, indeed, throughout France the sight of a lady cycling in this costume attracts but little attention. But in Paris the dress has been adopted by ladies who have no intention of taking active exercise, and the strange costumes to be seen on the boulevards have suggested to the authorities that here is a case of wearing male costume without leave. In France, perhaps alone of western countries, a woman may, if she show good cause, obtain a special permit from the police to wear male attire.

FIRESIDE FANCIES.

IN the last enchanted gray light
That is neither night nor daylight,
In the shy light of the twilight,
Soft and shady, little lady,
Comes a-roaming through the gloaming,
Comes a-ringing such a singing
As a nightingale can only
When he's lonely send a-winging.

And the dear delicious glamour
Of his tender-hearted clamor
Makes the red blood surge and hammer
And the pulses thrill and start;
Oh, my lady, little dear one,
With your shining eyes so near one,
All the world is full of rapture
At the capture of your heart.

So the while we listen nightly
To the bird that lilteth brightly,
Kiss me lightly, where all whitely
Gleam the stars in heights above,
While the twilight dims and darkens
And the brooding silence hearkens
To my pleading, to your heeding,
Little love!

—Guy Wetmore Carry.

We love music for the buried hopes, the garnered memories, the tender feelings, it can summon at a touch.

The whitebait, the sprat, the sardine and the anchovy are the smallest of the finny tribe, and yet the collection and sale of these form important and very profitable industries.

Speaker Crisp's father and mother were actors, and his elder brothers as well. One of the Speaker's earliest recollections is seeing his father play Armand Duval to his mother's Camille.

The paper cables used in insulating electric wires in Chicago are made by wrapping strips of manilla paper around the wire and coating it with rosin oil. When sheathed in lead pipe these cables are said to be highly satisfactory.

In giving advice adopt always the gentlest manner. Advice should not fall like a violent storm, bearing down and causing to drop all that which it was meant to refresh. It must descend like dew or melting flakes of snow. The softer it falls the longer it dwells upon and the deeper it sinks into the mind.

Could plants lay claim to aristocratic position, as representing an old family, rice might safely claim to be of the most ancient degree. It is the earliest cereal known. Originally a native of India, it has crossed the ocean and made a home for itself where heat and moist soil could be found. It grows in all warm portions of the globe, and furnishes the principal food of nearly one-third of the human race.

FACTS FOR FINANCIERS.

Vermont has the largest marble output in the United States. Michigan excels in copper, and when the pantatas are in session Albany leads the country in brass.

Canal navigation, so long eclipsed by the ascendancy of the railways, is decidedly looking up again in England.

The desert of Sahara is not all a desert. In 1892, more than nine millions of sheep wintered in the Algerian Sahara, paying a duty of 1,763,000 francs (\$352,000). There sheep were

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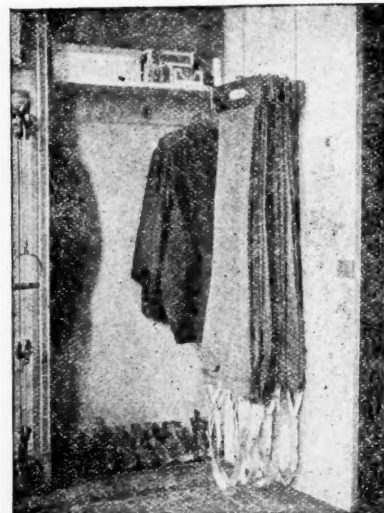
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PROOF	Write us the particulars of your case, and if we agree to take it, will Cure you. Address, Lock Box 13, UNA, Robertson Co., Texas.	FREE

worth twenty francs (\$4) apiece, or in all 175,000,000 francs. The Sahara nourishes also 2,000,000 goats and 260,000 camels, paying a duty of 1,000,000 francs. In the oases palms, citrons and apricots abound; there are cultivated also onions, pimentos and various leguminous vegetables. The oases contain 1,500,000 date palms, on which the duty is 560,000 francs. The product of a date tree varies from 8 to 10 francs; those of the desert give about 15,000,000 a year.

.

The French are experimenting with a single-track temporary railroad that can be laid on a country road or across the fields. They expect to use it in military operations and in harvesting crops. The barrows and cars used are on the bicycle principle, and they can be operated by hand or horse power. The gain in the use of the rail is the great diminution of friction.

.

One-quarter of the main line of the Trans-Siberian Railroad has now been completed, at a cost of 73,437,111 roubles. This is less than the estimate.

NUGGETS AND NUBBINS.

THOUGHTS AT SEA.

The first day called up gravest fears that made me nervous hearted;

The next day called up memories of friends from whom I'd parted;

The third day called up thoughts of land where one is safely carted;

The fourth day called up everything I'd eaten since I started.

.

"Doan' be too skaht ob gettin' left," said Uncle Eben, "de chicken dat sleeps a leetle ways back in de coop may be de last 'ter git 'is brekfus' in de mawuin', but he ain' so easy grabbed off de roos' at night."

.

Little Miss Freckles—"Did you e move up to the top floor because you is gettin' poor?"

Little Miss Mugg—"Course not. Pop has got interested in astronomy and wanted to be where he could see the moon close."

.

Jones—"I believe all the electric cars in this country are controlled by foreigners."

Brown—"What makes you think so?"

Jones—"Because they are run by poles."

.

"Where were you last night, Thomas?"

"At the club. Why do you ask?"

"Because when you came in you said that a man had paid you \$50, and that the wind was 'shempered to the torn lamb."

.

Inhabitants of other towns in Bonnie Scotland are very fond of poking fun at the good people of Paisley on account of the Paisleyites' alleged fondness for the whisky. A reader, who is not a Paisley man, sends us the following anecdote:

Several men who were in a train had a bottle of whisky, but had no corkscrew. One of them said, "Wait, an' I'll get one."

When the train stopped at the next station, he put his head out of the window and said, "Wha belongs tae Paisley?"

A good number were heard to say, "I belong tae Paisley."

"Weel," said he, "len' us yer corkscrew!"

.

"It's all right, Mary," he said, patiently. "Go into politics and run for office if you want to. But remember one thing, the cartoonists will be after you as soon as you're a candidate."

"I don't care."

"And they'll put your picture in the paper with your hair out of curl and your hat on crooked."

"Do you think they would do that," she inquired, apprehensively.

"Of course. And they'll make your Paris gowns look like ten-cent calico and say that your seal-skin coat is imitation."

"William," she said, after a thoughtful pause, "I guess I'll just stay right here and make home happy."

.

Dukane—"What is the order of Cincinnati, Gaswell?"

Gaswell—"I was never in the town more than twice or three times, but then I gathered the impression that the usual order was 'beer and bologna.'"

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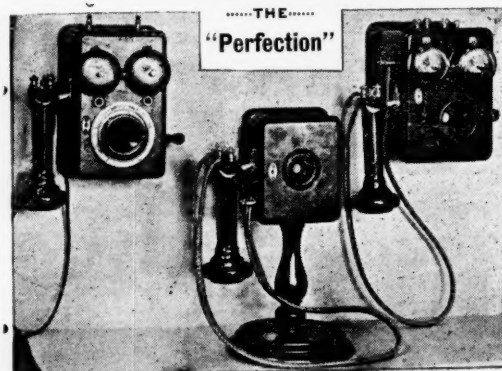
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